Mobile Telephone facilities

*218. DR. MOHAN BABU:
SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cities in the country where Mobile telephone facility has been provided, State-wise;

(b) whether Government are aware that 'Mobile Companies' are collecting excess money from their consumers at different places; and

(c) if so, the difference in the rates of mobile phones in different States and cities and the basis thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The details regarding the cities where service has started commercially, are given in Statement-I. (*see* below)

(b) and (c) The Govt. has approved ceilings on tariffs for monthly rental, security deposit, installation charges and call charges as given in Statement-II. (*see* below) However, the companies are free to charge lower tariffs. According to the information available with the Government, the companies are not charging in excess of the prescribed ceiling limits.

Statement-I

Cities where cellular Mobile telephone service is available as on 31.07.1997

Sl. No.	Cellular Service Area (Telecom Circle/Metro cities)	City
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad Vijayawada Guntur
2.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad Gandhi Nagar Vadodara
3.	Haryana	Panipat Sonepat Karnal Ambala Yamuna Nagar
4.	Himachal Pradesh	Simla
5.	Karnataka	Bangalore
6.	Kerala	Cochin Kozhikode Trivendrum Kottayam Trichur Kalanassary Aluvakara Trissur
7.	Maharashtra	Pune Nasik Panjim & Margoa (Goa) Nagpur Panaji Ahmednagar
8.	M.P.	Indore Dewas Bhopal Sehore
9.	Punjab	Chandigarh Ludhiana
10.	Rajasthan	Jaipur
11.	Tamilnadu	Coimbatore Erode Salem Tirupur
12.	U.P. (West)	Meerut Agra Aligarh Moradabad Rampur Bullandshahr
13.	U.P. (East)	Kanpur Lucknow
14.	Delhi	Delhi

Sl. No.	Cellular Service Area (Telecom Circle/Metro cities)	City
15.	Bombay	Bombay
16.	Calcutta	Calcutta
17.	Chennai	Chennai

Note: 1. The licenses for Cellular Service are awarded for the four metro cities of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras and is Telecom Territorial Circles.

2. The metro cities include the adjoining areas as follows:

Delhi: Ghaziabad, Noida, Faridabad and Gurgaon.

Bombay: Kalyan and New Bombay.

Madras: Maraimalai (MEPZ), Minjur and Mahaballipuram.

Statement-II

Ceiling Tariffs for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service

TARIFF

1. Monthly Rental for the Service — Rs. 156/- p.m.
2. Security Deposit — Rs. 3000/-
3. Installation Charges — Rs. 1200/-
4. Call Charges:—

4.1 for calls originated by the Mobile Subscriber:— Air time charge @10 seconds per unit call plus call charges as applicable for the fixed network for Local, STD, and ISD calls. For mobile to mobile calls within the same Cellular service area, only air time charges will be levied.

4.2 for calls terminating on the Mobile subscriber:— Air time charge @10 seconds per unit call will be levied. No charge will be levied to the mobile subscriber if the mobile subscriber terminates an incoming call within 5 seconds.

5. Notes on tariff:

5.1 Call duration will be on air time basis for mobile subscribers.

5.2 The air time unit call shall be charged at unit rate applicable to the highest slab of the DOT's fixed net work (Rs. 1.40 per unit at present). The unit rate shall be applied as above for all calls and there are no telescopic rates.

5.3 Call charges for the air time during peak hours shall be fixed at rates not exceeding double the rates prescribed in para 4 above. Peak hours shall be restricted upto a maximum of 4 hours per day. Peak hours and air time call charges during peak hours may be fixed by the Licensee in consultation with Telecom Authority.

5.4 Call charges for the air time during Sundays and 3 National Holidays (15th August, 26th January & 2nd October) shall be half the rates prescrtibed in para 4 above.

5.5 For calls from mobile subscriber to the fixed net work, the Licensee shall charge the mobile subscriber at the rates prescribed by the Telecom. Authority according to time and day of the call. Unit rate for such calls shall be the highest slab rate of the DOT's fixed net work (Rs. 1.40 at present). The unit rate shall be applied as above for all calls and there are no telescopic rates.

5.6 There are no free calls to be given in the Air time.

For calls originating from the fixed net work to mobile, the mobile subscriber will be charged for the air time and DOT will not have to pay any access fee to the Cellular Operator. The air time charges will be collected by the Cellular Operator.

5.8 For mobile both caller and called party will be charged.

6. All tariff increase shall be subject to prior approval of the telecom. Authority and/or its successor.

7. The rental does not include the cost of the Subscriber's terminal equipment (mobile handset). The subscriber is free to buy the terminal equipment from any source.

News-Item 'Delhi Police Heroes turn villains again'

*219. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to a news-item captioned 'Delhi Police Heroes turn villains again' which appeared in the Hindustan Times of 20th June, 1997; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two constables of Delhi are reported to have intercepted a scooter on which two persons were riding after allegedly having received information that the scooter was being used for smuggling purposes. This led to a heated argument with the scooterists and an unruly scene in which two vehicles were burnt. A criminal case was registered against the two constables on the basis of the complaint made by one of the scooterists, Separately, both the constables were dismissed from service in light of their misdemeanour.

Resentment Amongst the Scientists of DGQA

*220. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of resentment amongst the scientists of the Directorate General of Quality Assurance due to alleged domination of Army officials;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have initiated any steps to take care of grievances of the scientists at DGQA;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (e) Officers of the Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA) are drawn from the Civilian cadre of Defence Quality Assurance Service (DQAS) and from the cadre of Defence Forces. Each cadre is governed by Rules and Regulations applicable to it.

Members of DQAS have represented that they are accorded less opportunity to hold independent charge relative to Defence Service Officers.

Government assigns responsibilities keeping in view requirements, exigencies and career prospects of each cadre.